(a) how many persons entitled to get pension have superannuated after the enactment of new pension scheme, 1995 and superannuation pension of how many of them have so far been regularised;

(b) whether the rates of superannuation/family pension have at all been revised since the enactment of the scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Under the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995, pension claims are settled on receipt of formal applications from the beneficiaries. As on 31.1.2000, superannuation/retirement pension has been sanctioned in 2,98,784 cases.

(b) to (d) Under the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995, there is a provision for valuation of the pension fund and review of pensionary benefits on an annual basis. On completion of the first annual valuation, an increase of 4% on pension in payment was sanctioned to the pensioners *w.e.f.* 16.11.1996. Again on completion of the second annual valuation, additional relief of 5.5% has been sanctioned to the pensioners. *w.e.f.* 1.4.1998. The minimum amount of children pension has been enhanced from Rs. 115/to Rs. 150/per month, the minimum amount of orphan pension from Rs. 170/to Rs. 250/per month and the minimum widow pension under the ceased Family Pension Scheme raised to Rs. 450/per month.

Amendment in Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970

1592. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state whether Government are thinking to bring necessary amendment in the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 in view of decision on Air India case relating to appropriate Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): No, Sir.

Bonded Labour

1593. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.